# IAP20 Res'd PCT/PIA-14 FEB 2006

### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

National Phase Application Based Upon PCT/NZ2004/000182		)
Serial No.:	Not Yet Assigned	)
Applicant:	KRAMER	Certificate of Mailing by "Express Mail"
Filed:	February 14, 2006	Express Mailing No.:   EL984134295
For: WATER CHAMBER FOR HUMIDIFIER		I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office Box Addressee" Under 37 C.F.R. §1.10 on the date indicated above addressed to The Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
Examiner:	Not Yet Assigned	Johanna E. Cronin
Art Unit:	Not Yet Assigned	
Attorney Docket No.: 1171/44460/164-PCT-US		) )

### **COMMUNICATION**

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 1450

Sir:

Enclosed is a copy of amended sheets presented during the international application phase of PCT/NZ2004/000182 under Article 19 and/or 34. These amendments were entered and considered for the purposes of the International Preliminary Examination Report and therefore should have been presented to the United States as a National Phase Office. Entry and consideration of same during the United States National Phase application is requested.

Should the Examiner have any questions regarding this Communication, the Examiner is invited to contact one of the undersigned attorneys at (312) 704-1890.

## **30/568517** IAP20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 14 FEB 2006

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: Feb. 14, 200 6

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from the inner periphery of said at least one gases port with an opening at a distal end of said flow tube being spaced from the wall of said chamber, said opening facing a direction transverse to an axis of said tube, said transverse direction not being downwards.

Preferably said chamber includes an inlet gases port and an outlet gases port, both said inlet gases port and said outlet gases port including a said elongate flow tube.

Preferably said chamber further includes a baffle between said opening of said inlet gases port tube and said opening of said outlet gases port tube.

Preferably said baffle extends from the roof of said chamber and terminates below the surface of water in said chamber when said chamber is filled to a maximum intended water level for use.

Preferably said inlet gases port and said outlet gases port includes a said elongate flow tube having an opening facing a direction transverse to an axis of said tube, said opening of said inlet flow tube and said opening of said outlet flow tube facing upwards.

To those skilled in the art to which the invention relates, many changes in construction and widely differing embodiments and applications of the invention will suggest themselves without departing from the scope of the invention as defined in the appended claims. The disclosures and the descriptions herein are purely illustrative and are not intended to be in any sense limiting.

### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a water chamber according to one preferred embodiment of the present invention.

Figure 2 is a cross sectional side elevation of the chamber of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a perspective view of the water chamber of Figure 1, showing the inner detail of the chamber.

Figure 4 is a cross sectional side elevation of the chamber of Figure 1 in use with water therein and in a tilted condition demonstrating the operation of the inlet extension tube 5 in reducing the capacity for leakage through the gases inlet 3.

Amended Sheet IPEA/AU

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#### **CLAIMS:**

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- 1. A water chamber adapted for use in conjunction with a heater base and having at least one horizontally oriented gases port in a wall thereof the improvement comprising an elongate flow tube extending into said water chamber from the inner periphery of said at least one gases port with an opening at a distal end of said flow tube being spaced from the wall of said chamber, said opening facing a direction transverse to an axis of said tube, said transverse direction not being downwards.
- 2. A water chamber as claimed in claim 1, wherein said chamber includes an inlet gases port and an outlet gases port, both said inlet gases port and said outlet gases port including a said elongate flow tube.
- 3. A water chamber as claimed in claim 2, wherein said chamber further includes a baffle between said opening of said inlet gases port tube and said opening of said outlet gases port tube.
- 4. A water chamber as claimed in claim 3, wherein said baffle extends from the roof of said chamber and terminates below the surface of water in said chamber when said chamber is filled to a maximum intended water level for use.
  - 5. A water chamber as claimed in claim 2, wherein said inlet gases port and said outlet gases port includes a said elongate flow tube having an opening facing a direction transverse to an axis of said tube, said opening of said inlet flow tube and said opening of said outlet flow tube facing upwards.

Amended Sheet IPEA/AU